

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the correcting amendment above with respect to claim 55 and comments which follow.

Turning first to the objection to claim 55, the Examiner is quite correct, and claim 55 has been appropriately corrected.

The Examiner's indication of allowance or allowability of many of the claims is gratefully acknowledged. However, the Examiner has rejected claims 37-48, 53-54 and 56-59 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Shinkawa U.S. Patent No. 5,831,265. Reconsideration is requested, because, in particular, the Examiner's argument that Shinkawa meets feature (g) of claim 37 is in error.

Shinkawa shows two embodiments of microscope in which various values for alignment coil current for given operating parameters, such as accelerating voltage and working distance, are stored in a storage unit (20). The output from that unit is relayed to an adder circuit, the output of which, in turn, provides control for the alignment coil. Another input of the adder circuit is a fine adjustment entry device (23) by which the user can tune the alignment coil current. The adder circuit (22) only receives signals from the data storage unit (20) and the fine adjustment entry (23) but does not feedback the added signal to any form of data storage device. Nor does the corresponding text in column 6 of Shinkawa contain any disclosure or suggestion that the output of the adder could be fed back into any sort of data storage device.

Thus, although the fine adjustment entry device (23) can modify the output of the adder circuit, this only has an effect on the coil current at that particular time of use of the microscope. There is no suggestion that the output from the adder unit (22) could be used to modify the data contained in the data storage device (20).

Thus any benefit achieved by the use of the fine adjustment device in the microscope described in Shinkawa will not be carried forward into subsequent uses of the microscope because it does not result in the updating of any stored values. By

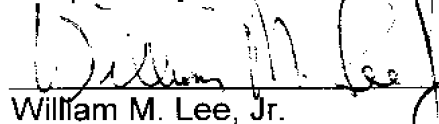
contrast, feature (g) of claim 37 means that a microscope in accordance with the present invention will store a value which has been updated by the user using the tuner for future use.

It is therefore submitted that claim 37, and all claims depending from claim 37 are allowable over Shinkawa. Similar comments apply to independent claim 54, and its depending claims.

The Examiner's further and favorable reconsideration of the application is therefore urged. As this Response is being submitted during the sixth month following the Examiner's Office Action, an appropriate Petition for Extension of Time is also submitted herewith.

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Respectfully submitted,



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